



KNOWLEDGE

Brings comfort and improvement and tends to personal enjoyment when rightly used. The many, who live better than others and enjoy life more, with less expenditure, by more promptly adapting the world's best products to the needs of physical being, will attest the value to health of the pure liquid laxative principles embraced in the remedy, Syrup of Figs.

Its excellence is due to its presenting in the form most acceptable and pleasant to the taste, the refreshing and truly beneficial properties of a perfect laxative; effectually cleansing the system, dispelling colds, headaches and fevers and permanently curing constipation. It has given satisfaction to millions and met with the approval of the medical profession, because it acts on the kidneys, liver and bowels without weakening them and it is perfectly free from every objectionable substance.

Syrup of Figs is for sale by all druggists in 50c and \$1 bottles, but it is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, whose name is printed on every package, also the name, Syrup of Figs, and being well informed, you will not accept any substitute if offered.

J. B. REIDY, T. B. REIDY.

REIDY BROS.

THE LEADING

Real Estate—

—Insurance.

AGENTS.

Buy, sell and manage property on commission, own money, collect rents, also carry a line of first class fire insurance companies, building into fire in all the different additions. Choice residence property in all parts of the city.

Room 4, Mitchell & Lynde building, ground floor, in rear of Mitchell & Lynde bank.



Adams Wall Paper Co.

Don't you want a pleasant home? You certainly do; and to satisfy your wishes we have a fine line of Window Shades, Wall Papers, and above all, Pictures and Picture Frames. These are all necessary requisites to make your home homelike. Come and convince yourself that our prices are the lowest in the city, and that we have the finest selection from which to make your choice.

Adams Wall Paper Co.

310, 312 and 314

TWENTIETH STREET.



A SHOCKING DEATH.

Which Overtook John Varpale at the Arsenal.

BOTH HANDS WERE BLOWN OFF.

A Shell Burst While He Is Carrying It, With Frightful Results—The Unfortunate Man Expires Shortly After the Accident—Particulars of the Horrible Affair.

John Varpale, of Moline, a laborer at Rock Island Arsenal, met a shocking and horrible death this morning. Varpale was one of a squad of men working under Foreman Totten in the blacksmith department adjoining the foundry, and removing the sabots from a number of discarded 30-inch parrot shells. The men had been frequently cautioned to observe the utmost care in handling these shells, but as the one Varpale had when the accident occurred, contained no fuse plug—a clear indication that it was unloaded—he felt no unusual fear in handling it, but as he was about to place it with the others, it exploded, tearing both hands into shreds, and rendering the man unconscious from the shock. He was carried to the hospital, and Dr. Preston, of Davenport, who was at the arsenal, summoned to attend him. Meanwhile a message was sent for Drs. Craig and Carter, of this city, and both responded promptly, but the unfortunate man expired before they arrived, having failed to regain consciousness.

This afternoon Deputy Coroner Eckhardt is conducting an inquest at the request of Col. Bullington.

Others Injured.

Robert Winterbottom and John Mahony, of this city, who were working with Varpale, were slightly, but not seriously injured.

What caused the accident is as much of a mystery as it is, that having occurred, the poor fellow was not blown to atoms. Varpale was 45 years of age, and has a family in Moline.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL.

A Pleasant Entertainment at Augustana College—The G. A. R. Fair.

The Christmas festival given by the lyceum of Augustana college, in the college chapel last evening, and participated in by the Phrenokosmian and Adelphe societies was well attended and proved a very enjoyable affair. The program was as follows:

Angels' Chorus.....Clark
Hail to Tree, Great King.....Dow
Cverture.....Donlan
"How the Gospel Came to Jim".....Anna Westman
A Dream of Bethlehem.....Rodney
Prof. G. H. Swenson, Scholastic
"Meeting of the Wine Men".....Wallace
O M. Anderson, P. S. Miller, J. N. Brande
Legende.....Wieniewski
Inspired and Resolved of 17.....Gelbel
Prof. G. H. Swenson, Scholastic
Reading of the Christmas Story.....Luke
C. J. Sodergren
Pastor's Symphony.....Handel
Tidings of Great Joy.....Wallace
C. A. Wendell
Christmas Anthem.....Gos

The G. A. R. Fair.

The fair which has been conducted successfully at Armory hall the past two days concludes tonight, when the prizes will be awarded to ticket holders. The fair has been well worthy the support it has received, and much praise has been given Col. Lew Ginger, under whose direction it, as well as the entertainment at Harper's theatre have been presented. The post relief corps should realize handsomely from the proceeds of the week.

Facts About an Elevator.

The following interesting statistics of the number of passengers carried, and quantity of water used, in the passenger elevator in the Mitchell & Lynde building, for one day of 11 1/2 hours' run, have been obtained from Harry L. Coyne, operator in charge:

Number of passengers carried, 724; quantity of water used, 35,295 gallons; quantity of water used for each passenger, 49 gallons. The water for this service is furnished by the Mitchell & Lynde artesian well, which also supplies the water for every office in the block, and for the drinking fountains at the post office corner, Market square, and Spencer square, but the consumption for these latter purposes is not included in the above figures.

There are two large tanks on the roof of the building which act as a reservoir, and are connected with the artesian well. They hold 10,000 gallons, and are kept constantly full.

At Buncher's

Spencer square grocery for a grand display for Christmas. Telephone your orders early.

POULTRY AND GAME.

Turkeys, Ducks, Geese, Squirrels, Quail, Snipe.

FRUIT.

Eating apples, Fine apples, Oranges, Bananas, Tangerines, Dates and figs, California pears, California grapes.

VEGETABLES.

Radishes, Cucumbers, Lettuce, Parsley, Cabbage, Beets, Spinage, Soup bunches, Sweet potatoes.

A choice line of bottled goods, candies and nuts for table use, in fact everything in the market can be found at his store.

CHAS. BUNCHER,
221 Twentieth street.

THE THEATRE.

Extra Kendall in the "Substitute"—Stuart Robson—Other Attractions.

The favorite comedian, Ezra Kendall, presented his sparkling new comedy, "The Substitute," written by Messrs. Archibald Gordon and J. W. Harkins, Jr., at Harper's theatre last evening. While Kendall's "Pair of Kids" was always a delight, "The Substitute" is far in advance of it, in its comical situations, its well developed plot, and the vein of refined and wholesome comedy that runs through it. The musical and other special features incidental to the action of the play were first-class, and in the third act a very pretty stage setting is introduced. Ezra Kendall appears in the character of "Simon Pure," and is a host in himself. He is splendidly supported by Arthur Dunn, the diminutive comedian, by John Hart, the opposite extreme, and Jennie Dunn Kendall, in the more prominent parts, while Charles E. Eldridge as the centenarian gave a master piece of acting. The remainder of the cast was considerably above the average.

Stuart Robson in Legitimate Comedy.

Stuart Robson, who has grown gray in the faithful service of the goddess who presides over the highest form of dramatic art, comes to us Saturday night prepared to delight both our hearts and intellects with an elaborate production of Shakespeare's inimitably funny conceit, the "Comedy of Errors." Mr. Robson has no sympathy with those so-called sages who hold that Shakespeare's plays were intended only to be read in the privacy of the library. He knows better, for he is aware that the great author was one of the most practical playwrights and constructors that ever lived, and he furthermore knows that Shakespeare throughout his life strenuously resisted all entreaties to publish his plays, because he knew their publication would at once deprive him of the handsome revenue he had been wont to receive from their presentations. These are some of the reasons why Mr. Robson adds this year to his long list of revivals of the classic drama, that of the "Comedy of Errors," embellished with elaborate pictures of the different scenes and reproductions of the beautiful costumes and the manners of the interesting people of Ephesus during that semi-classic age immediately following the introduction of Christianity. This play, which is an adaptation as well as a great improvement upon Plautus' Latin comedy, "The Menechmi," written 2,000 years ago, has always possessed special interest for the student of Shakespeare, not only because it was his very first dramatic work, but because he is believed to have made in it more than once, allusions to his own life. Thus the reasoning of the beautiful and chaste Luciana with Antipholus of Syracuse, to persuade him to be faithful to his wife, is a reminder of the lectures Shakespeare received at home; for in his youth he was notoriously gallant to the fair sex, and the vivid description of a nagging wife, given by the abbeys, furnishes a graphic picture of the domestic broils which the jealousy of the poet's imperious and highly strung wife raised about his ears, until in sheer desperation he fled to London to secure his independence, and by so doing found himself in circumstances that called forth the genius which was destined to astonish mankind in all ages.

Other Events.

Following closely on the heels of this performance comes another exponent of legitimate drama in Robert Downing, who is to appear at Harper's theatre next Wednesday night in "The Gladiator."

"Alabama," which is variously known as Mr. Thomas' triumph, Mr. Thomas' dream, but principally as the ideal American play, will be the attraction at the Burtis on Christmas and Tuesday, Dec. 25 and 26. "Alabama" is a pure comedy. A story of the south. It was born in the south, and belongs to the south, and has been appreciated as much in the north as it has in the south. Mr. Thomas conceived the plot of this play in Talladega, Ala., he laid the scenes of his play in that picturesque spot, he founded his characters upon people he met there, and wrote his play there. And it can be said without fear of contradiction that "Alabama" is the most successful American play ever put upon the stage. The famous actor, Frank C. Bangs, heads the cast. And there are also Clement Bainbridge, William Calhoun, L. P. Hicks, James R. Marlett, W. J. Dean, F. B. Galloway, Edward Maas, Belle Barron, Ethel Irving, Lillian Schovel and Gertrude Magill.

At the Hospital.

Besides the operation performed upon Isaac Richwine, at St. Anthony's hospital yesterday, Drs. Myers, Wheeler, Middleton, Asay, Emily Wright and two medical students from Davenport, performed two operations. One of these was the removal of an internal abscess from the person of Mrs. Elizabeth Know, and the other was performed upon Charles Baker, who is suffering from an internal disease.

Adam Klotz.

Catholic book store, prayer books, devotionals, Christmas cribs, wax infants, angels, Christmas tree ornaments, Christmas cards, almanacs, one-half pound Christmas wax candles, patent wax Christmas tree candles.

Toys 50 per cent below retail prices. No. 2205 Fourth avenue, Rock Island.

FIRST AVENUE.

The Track Right Question Before the Attorney General.

ARGUMENTS GIVEN YESTERDAY.

No Disposition on the Part of the State to Interfere in the Controversy at the Present Status of the Case—Opinion of General M. T. Maloney in the Premises.

The much disputed question as to railroad rights on First avenue was brought to the attention of the state yesterday, in the form of arguments presented before Attorney General M. T. Maloney in his office at Springfield, on the question of the state's right to interfere in the premises. There were present, Assistant General Solicitor Mather, of the Rock Island road; Gen. Supt. H. B. Sudlow and Col. Henry Curtis representing the R. I. & P., E. D. Sweeney representing the C. & Q., Fred Haas and City Attorney J. L. Haas. The latter did not appear as a municipal official, but merely as an attorney retained by interested property holders. The arguments were participated in mainly by Col. Curtis and Mr. Haas, and as to the result, THE ARGUS interviewed these two gentlemen this morning.

The Attorney General's Opinion.

Col. Curtis said: "The attorney general, after becoming acquainted with the actual situation, decided that there was no occasion whatever for intervention on the part of the state. The city of Rock Island had already duly considered its interests, and those of its citizens, and he accordingly dismissed the application."

Mr. Haas said: "The attorney general gave it as his opinion after hearing all the arguments and showings presented, that there was no question as to the existence of a prima facie case and a violation of the law, neither of which were denied by the railroads. And furthermore he was prepared to act in the matter upon a proper request by the people of this city, or by the council as their representatives. But he held, as the council had the matter before them, and being the representatives of the people, and had refused to do anything, he did not feel like acting. Should the council or a number of people interested, request him, he would feel justified in intervening in behalf of the people of the state of Illinois."

Died in Wichita.

The Wichita Eagle of Dec. 17 has the following concerning the death in that city of a former Rock Island county citizen:

At 10 o'clock yesterday, surrounded by his loving parents and other friends, G. F. Dickson yielded his spirit to the God who gave it, and calmly passed to eternal rest.

Frank, as he was best known, was 25 years old and unmarried. Before he had attained the age of manhood he held an important position in commercial life, being manager of a large lumber yard at Salt Lake, Utah, until about a year ago, when he returned to Wichita afflicted with the malady which eventually caused his death. He was a young man of promise, and had lived and remained in good health he would undoubtedly have risen to a high plane in the commercial world, as he had splendid business qualifications.

His death was the result of an operation that had been performed a few days ago, in hopes of prolonging his life and relieving him of the most excruciating pains.

Frank was the son of George M. Dickson, chairman of the board of metropolitan police commissioners. The many friends of the heart broken parents are very much grieved at their loss, and this grief was manifested in many quarters and in various ways when the sad news became public.

And Who Can Blame Them?

The members of the Grocers' Mutual Protection association, in accordance with a decision made at the last meeting of the association, Dec. 15, will be compelled to omit giving their patrons Christmas and New Years presents, as has been customary heretofore. This action was taken in view of the difficulty experienced by the grocers in making collections these hard times, which are bearing harder on the grocers than any other class of business men.

Death's Decree.

Christian Redecker died last evening at 11:15 of scarlet fever at his home, 707 Twelfth street, aged 11 years, 9 months and 10 days. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Redecker, and will be buried at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning from the late home.

New Things for Presents.

Self closing umbrellas, Persian handle umbrellas, blue. Smoking jackets and fancy vests. Fancy silk handkerchiefs. Dressing gowns and bath robes. Furs for ladies and children. Persian imported neckwear. Fancy, plain and novelty mufflers. Full dress shirts and protectors. Seal caps and fine hats. Silk and satin suspenders. Call and see our novelties, we have new things in every line we carry.

LLOYD & STEWART.

Notice. Highest cash price paid for grease and dead hogs at the Farrell Fertilizing and Rendering works.

C. E. WIVILL.

A NEW POST.

E. W. Boynton Appointed Commissioner of Public Works in Davenport.

E. W. Boynton, of this city, was appointed commissioner of public works by Mayor Vollmer, of Davenport, last evening, and his nomination was unanimously confirmed by the city council. The Democrat speaking of Mr. Boynton's appointment says:

In selecting Eugene W. Boynton for the important and responsible position of commissioner of public works the city council did a good thing last evening. Mr. Boynton has long been a resident of this city, and he is an engineer of long experience, good qualifications and undoubted ability. He has been actively engaged in engineering work for more than 30 years. During that time he has been employed in responsible positions in survey and improvement work on the Mississippi, on various surveys and examinations for water-powers and other improvements on Rock river and the Mississippi, on different railroad surveys and in city work. He entered the employ of the C. & R. I. & P. road in 1879, coming there from important work in the city of Rock Island, where he is highly regarded. He has been connected with the engineering department of the road ever since. At the present time he is assistant engineer of the lines included between Davenport, Council Bluffs, Leavenworth and Atchison, Kan., and St. Joseph, Mo.

A Practical Man.

He is a thoroughly practical man, just such as Davenport needs in this position, and an agreeable and pleasant gentleman in all his dealings with his associates and fellow-laborers. General satisfaction was expressed at his election last evening.

A Christmas Stocking for the Y. M. C. A.

The Young Men's building will be dedicated New Year's day and opened every day in the year following as a home and headquarters for all young who will avail themselves of its privileges. The value of these privileges would be greatly increased if the building was complete in its equipment. The following suggestions are modestly made by Secretary Blakeslee with the hope that some of our citizens will count the association among the friends not to be forgotten on Christmas day.

For the Office—A small flat desk, two office chairs, a letter press and a type writer.

For the Parlor—A carpet, centre table, easy chair and rocker, window shades and portiere.

For the Kitchen—Two hundred cups, plates and saucers, with platter cake dishes, kitchen spoons, etc.

For the Class Room—A long table, black board, three dozen cane seat chairs and window shades.

For the Toilet Room—A blacking stand.

For the Reading Room—Subscriptions to papers and magazines, also books for the library.

For the Gymnasium—A complete outfit.

The Athletic Exhibition.

The promised athletic exhibition at the Milan town hall last evening, was given under the auspices of Denny Hurley and Paddy Brennan. About one hundred sports and others of the tri-cities attended, and were well pleased with the program. The first number was contortionist work by the two little Milan wonders. This was followed by local sparring and fancy dancing, after which the event of the evening was announced, namely: the 6-round glove contest, between Hurley and Brennan for points. Both men proved themselves very clever.

Hess Bros.' Bill of Fare.

Order your Christmas dinner from this list. Telephone No. 1031.

POULTRY.
Turkeys, Ducks, Chickens, Geese.
FRUIT.
Eating apples, Oranges, Dates, California pears, Pine apples, Bananas, Figs, Malaga grapes.

VEGETABLES.
Lettuce, Spinage, Tomatoes, Parsley, Beets, Oyster plant, Water cress, Cucumber, Soup bunches, Sweet potatoes, Carrots, Cabbage, Parsnips, Rutabagas.

Baltimore oysters and celery, and the finest and most complete line of domestic and imported bottle and can goods. Also choice candies and nuts, macaroons, and a choice line of Kennedy's cakes and crackers. Order early of Hess Bros., 1629 Second avenue.

Organs Must Go.

I have 9 second hand organs, nice styles and in perfect order. I wish to close out to make room for pianos which are arriving daily from the factory.

1 9-stop Mason & Hamlin.
1 10-stop Kimball, chapel.
1 11 " " parlor.
1 9 " Wilcox & White.
1 8 " Kimball, cymbella.
1 9 " Chicago, cottage.

If you are in need of an organ, call in and I will give you prices and terms to suit you. D. R. BOWLEY.

The Weather Forecast.

Generally fair weather, only slight change in temperature; southerly winds. F. J. WALZ, Observer.

Daniel H. Burnham and Frank D. Miller are getting out an illustrated history of the World's fair to be sold for \$1.00 a copy. This, however, will be an "edition de luxe." A cheaper edition is promised.

A Useful Xmas Present

Is the one which is really appreciated.

Simon & Mosenfelder

Offer exceptional values in

Boys' and children's Suits and Overcoats.

Men's Suits and Overcoats.

Elegant Underwear.

Rich Neckwear.

Satin Suspenders.

Nobby Silk Umbrellas.

Seal Skin Caps.

Elegant Cuff Buttons.

Gold Scarf Pins.

Buckskin Underwear, for the rheumatic.

Children's Leather Leggings.

White, Fancy and Flannel Shirts.

Quality always the best. Prices the lowest.

Everything marked in plain figures—one price.

Simon & Mosenfelder,

Rock Island House Corner.

CUT PRICES.

We give away a book for the children with every \$2 purchase.

Men's cork sole shoes worth \$7, going at.....	\$ 4 50
Men's patent leather shoes, worth \$5, going at.....	3 50
Men's slippers, worth \$3 and \$3.50, going at.....	2 25
Men's slippers, worth \$2.75, going at.....	2 00
Men's slippers, worth \$2.50, going at.....	1 75
Men's slippers, worth \$2, going at.....	1 60
Men's slippers, worth \$1.75, going at.....	1 25
Men's slippers, worth \$1.50, going at.....	1 00
Men's slippers, worth \$1.25, going at.....	90
Men's slippers, worth 75 cents, going at.....	60
Boys' water proof shoes worth \$2.50, going at.....	1 75
Misses' high cut shoes, worth \$2.50, going at.....	1 80
Misses' high cut shoes, worth \$2.25, going at.....	1 65
Misses' high cut shoes, worth \$2, going at.....	1 50
Misses' high cut shoes, worth \$1.75, going at.....	1 35
Misses' high cut shoes, worth \$1.50, going at.....	1 15

GEO. SCHNEIDER,

ROCK ISLAND, ILL.

CENTRAL STORE, 1818 Second Avenue

Happy and Wise

Are they who purchase their Xmas Gifts from our well selected stock,

Bought carefully and at right prices. Hence we can offer you Many Special Bargains in

Sideboards,
Dining Tables,
China Closets,
Chairs and Cupboards

We are showing some decidedly pretty music cabinets, parlor cabinets, parlor desks, book cases and parlor tables.

Our array of vase lamps, hanging lamps, dinner sets and chamber sets will please you.

Fancy rockers in all styles and coverings, rattan rockers, easy chairs—just what you want.

Odd pieces for the parlor, parlor suits, couches, lounges, fetes and divans.

Cook and heating stoves and ranges.

G. O. HUCKSTAEDT,

C. F. DEWEND, Manager.

1809-1811 Second Avenue

Upholstering done to order. | Open evenings till 8 o'clock.
Telephone No. 1206.

FRANK ILL,

—DEALER IN—

HARDWARE | MIXED HOUSE PAINTS
FLOOR PAINTS.

LINSEED OIL, WHITE LEAD, ETC.

1610 Third Avenue.